



Parks & Recreation Department  
3300 Capitol Ave., Bldg., B  
P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006  
510 494-4344 ph | rdein@c.fremont.ca.us | www.fremont.gov

Date application turned in: \_\_\_\_\_

## Application for Youth Advisory Commission (Junior High School) (

Name: ALANKRITA DAYAL

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Hopkins Jr. High School

Grade: 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Have you done volunteer work or helped out in the community? Check off (✓) any of the following you have done in the past or are doing now. Put an X if you would like to do this in the future.

Are you involved with:

☒ After school sports – which sport? Basketball, Football

☒ After school club activities – which ones? Jazz Workshop, Math Enrichment, Multi-cultural club, Recycle

☒ Leadership class (student council/government)- Student Council, Girl Power, Youth Act, Conflict Mediator

☒ Church/youth group - Balavihar, Hindu Swayam Sevak Sangha

☒ Other youth group (Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, Campfire, etc.). What is it? Cricket Club, Robotics Club

☒ Baby-sitting - my younger cousins, once a week

☒ Odd jobs (washing cars, walking pets, yard work). What do you do? Clean yard, raking, wash cars for my family

☒ Volunteer work (homeless shelter, City of Fremont). What do you do? Lunch Helper at Fremont Hindu Temple  
Summer Reading Program (Fremont Main)

☒ Other, Anything not mentioned previously? Won Science Fair Awards, President's Volunteer Service Award  
Attend FUSD approved Hindi Class.

In a paragraph, who do you admire and why?

It's difficult to admire only one person! There have been so many people who have been an inspiration not only to me but to thousands others across the world. But, first and foremost, I admire my parents and teachers who taught me good values and help me better prepare for my future. My hero is my elder sister, who in spite of several medical challenges, remained consistent in her studies, and is finally going to UC Berkeley. She worked with the City of Fremont's Youth Today and American Red Cross and helped organize many events in the community. Being impressed by her ability of handling multiple tasks at the same time, I learned to be a multi-tasker myself. She instilled volunteering in me and encouraged me to volunteer my time to benefit my community.

AGENDA ITEM 8.1.1

Not only these, I also admire freedom fighters, soldiers, inventors, and technologies that have made our societies so comfortable and meaningful to live in. I admire not only the leaders but also the common people who stood together and worked hard to make this country great. I am also thankful to all the scientists and doctors who have contributed to great medical discoveries that help save lives of millions, everyday. I appreciate the works of all the inventors that have made my childhood so enjoyable with the luxuries of TV, i-pods, cell-phones, computers, radio, calculators, etc. And yes, no words can describe my admiration for the support and encouragement given by my family!

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**What issues/problems are you and your friends dealing with today?**

Presently, I feel that many of my friends are going through lot of emotional problems. There is stress of competition in studies among each other. Therefore, no one wants to share any information with others. Students steal other people's things or even destroy it, especially during lunch time. Even my backpack was hidden and I had a horrible time looking for it. Because of this, my school has set up a new policy of not taking backpacks outside classroom during lunch. Many students do not want to talk to certain groups based not only on their skin color but even the looks on their faces. Students form groups and want no new friends. Any new student joining the school gets only a few companions. I also personally feel that many in our generation lack respect for elders such as teachers and subs. I have noticed that students even hate their own parents, especially their mothers. They crack bad jokes and make fun of others. They don't want to help others. There is selfishness and hatred. I have come to know that they talk about girl friends, boy friends, and how they have been dumped or they are going to dump others. This type of talk makes them less interested in their studies. Many would just listen to music all the time. They become unfocussed and stressed out. They lose their patience and become angry and frustrated very easily. I have heard that drug dealers roam middle school and high school. Sometimes, even the students sell these to their friends. I tend to be away from students who talk about such things. I think that with so much going on in their lives, many of the students would end up as school dropouts in future. Since these students don't have much to look forward to, their future seems dark to me.

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**How do you think the YAC can help find solutions for the problems you listed above?**

Due to fast life, not much parental attention, and so much going on in their lives, youth today do not have a direction or aim for their future. YAC can help me connect with other teens like me and we can work together to find a common goal of creating a meaningful teenage years for us. As a YAC member, I will be meeting other teens from other schools and help in finding ideas that would solve the problems that we are facing today. After joining YAC, I would like to make a club at my junior high school, if possible. In this club, I would promote what is good for the students. For example, we could discuss important issues, our problems, and their possible solutions. I could organize events to fundraise money for city programs for teen. We can learn skills and make use of it in future events. In fact, if each junior high school has a YAC club at their school, we could think of arranging interschool contests on creating awareness posters, art contests, intercultural festivals, etc. The club members can volunteer at city events and earn volunteer hours. We could possibly arrange fairs and festivals with \$1 tickets to generate not only the money for the city but also entertainment for entire family. The students can perform dances, skits, and recitals which can earn them certificates. This will help teens to be friendlier and not racial against each other. We can request local businesses to present with goodies, or

talks that could benefit students. With so much to look forward to, students will now have much time to gossip on important things. They will learn skills, earn certificates, and make their teenage years a memorable phase of their lives.

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**What do you feel you can add or could bring to the YAC if selected?**

I am a good artist and writer. I can draft and write reports for city's events. I have won several art contests including ACWD Calendar contest and Tri-city Ecology's Earth Day Poster contest. I can use my artistic skills to design ~~posters~~ and ~~flyers~~ for promoting any of the city's events. I am a good speaker and listener. Therefore, I will be able to maintain and record important information about each YAC meetings. I can make great power-point slide shows. Using Internet and WordArt cartoons, I can make any presentation even more interesting and presentable. Therefore, I can create slide shows that can be shown at any school to promote city's events or fundraisers. As mentioned earlier, I would love to open a club at my school and enroll students who would love to volunteer at citywide events, organize fundraisers, and promote good ideas throughout the school. Since I have been working as a conflict mediator for my junior high school, I have learned to lead a team as well as work as a great team player. I can be humorous even at times of stress, easing everyone's tension. I have a big circle of friends, and I can help city in finding the immediate needs of the students at junior high schools. I am very enthusiastic about this position and would love to work hard to achieve the goals that our commission sets for.

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Date application turned in: 4/30/09

## Application for Youth Advisory Commission (High School)

Name: Sloka Gundala

Address: [REDACTED]

Birthdate: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

School: Mission San Jose High School Grade: 10<sup>th</sup>

List any community involvement, volunteer work (school, church, general):

In my freshman year, I worked at a senior center for couple months. My job involved assisting employees, setting up activities, and serving beverages and food during snack times. It was a wonderful experience, which taught me a lot of patience. Last summer, I volunteered at the Fremont Main Library. My work consisted of shelving children's books and picture books as well as keeping those areas of the library tidy. Occasionally, I helped run book sales, which contributed to library fund. I also been tutoring at Gomes Elementary for 2 years. The tutoring program is excellent and really unique, because it utilizes a one-on-one method to help underachieving students reach their full potential.

What are some issues and problems that teens in Fremont face today?

I think the biggest issue facing teens in Fremont is the budget cuts for next year. Many teens go to a public school, and will drastically affected. Not only will counselors and teachers be cut, many programs and clubs will lose necessary funding as well. For example, the Track and Field team may have to charge more in order to buy better equipment. Another problem that Fremont adolescents face is the lack of opportunities to find employment. Job fairs are few in number, and those that are held are rarely attended because most teens are unaware of them.

What issues/problems are you and your friends dealing with today?

The biggest problem in my and my friends' lives is stress. Getting into our dream colleges ~~have~~ has become immensely difficult, and for most of us juggling grades, SAT prep, and multiple extracurricular activities is a major part of our lives, and it consumes most of our energy and time. Added to this, all FUSD schools will have to cut down their budgets for next year. These fiscal problems have resulted in many teachers and counselors being laid off, as well as an increase in class sizes. This deprives students, including my friends and I, of personal attention that we need.

How do you think the YAC can help find solutions for the problems you listed above?

The best solution to the problem of stress is to offer seminars to deal with it and promote organizations and clubs such as SOS. A long-term plan would be to convince the district to consider block scheduling. Also, we could start the school year in mid-August. This would allow students to finish finals before winter break, thereby letting them enjoy the time off rather than studying. Unfortunately, there isn't much we can do about budget cuts. However, the YAC can combat the lack of counselors by offering college workshops. We can even charge money and donate ~~our~~ profits to the school in order to raise funds. As for employment issues, the best way would be to place ads in school newspaper or send out emails to students.

What do you feel you can add or could bring to the YAC if selected?

My best quality is that I pursue my interests passionately. For example, last year, against all odds, I learned LD debate on my own, in spite of the suspension of the Speech and Debate Club. This has helped me coach other Mission San Jose High students who are interested in debate this year. Through debate, I have enhanced many skills, which are beneficial for the YAC. Debate has enabled me to think impartially and analyze both sides of an issue, which is essential to find the best possible solution. I am better equipped to talk and deal with people as well. This is extremely important because being a commissioner involves a lot of teamwork. Being a debater ~~am~~ has given a lot of experience which will contribute considerably to the Youth Advisory Committee.



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h) 01/10  
I was informed the app. is due may 8

Date application turned in: \_\_\_\_\_

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AB 6 5/9  
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## Application for Youth Advisory Commission (High School)

Name: Neha Pal

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Mission San Jose High

Grade: 9

SCHOOL

gymnast  
con

List any community involvement, volunteer work (school, church, general):

At my school, there have been many campus beautification projects this year. I went to help plant some plants that had been previously destroyed. We also repainted the poles and picked up some trash that was left-over. Last summer, I volunteered with camp Galileo in Fremont. As a summer intern, I didn't get paid, but I got to work with younger children. It was a great experience. I'm also a part of Girls for Change. We identify problems in the community and try to create social change. Recently, we have been working with teen violence.

What are some issues and problems that teens in Fremont face today?

Some problems teens in Fremont face are struggling with body image, dealing with abuse, violence, pressure, and drug abuse. A lot of teens think they need to look a certain way and use unhealthy techniques to become thinner. Teens are abused every day by other teens and even adults. Most of them struggle with how to deal with it and many don't tell anyone or try to get help. There are all kinds of pressure for teens we have to be smart, skinny, pretty, and "perfect" according to some. Pressure often leads to drug abuse, which is obviously

dangerous

What issues/problems are you and your friends dealing with today?

My friends and I deal with pressure, body image, depression, and abuse. A lot of people I know are dealing with unrealistic expectations. They drive themselves crazy working, and I do, too. Two of my friends have tried crash dieting. They reached a point where they ate one meal in a day. Luckily, my other friends and I were able to talk them out of it before they got hurt. People around me are constantly abused by other teens. It starts at name calling and it can go all the way to violence.

How do you think the YAC can help find solutions for the problems you listed above?

\*The YAC can raise money to hold events with motivational speakers. The events would attract people from all over Fremont with the same problem. The teens could even help other teens with the same problems.

\*One really great idea is to use the Fremont Youth Today newspaper. There could be an anonymous section where teens talk about a problem and how they got over it. Other teens would read it and feel empowered. It works well because a lot of teens are afraid to come out about their problems.

What do you feel you can add or could bring to the YAC if selected?

I would bring new ideas, dedication, and perspective. I have many ideas for solving the problems teens deal with. ~~I have many ideas for solving the problems teens deal with. I have many ideas for solving the problems teens deal with.~~ I know that the YAC requires 110% of my effort. I'm willing to put all of my energy and effort to make a difference. I also have experience with Girls Exchange. I would add perspective by bringing the unique problems I see daily to the YAC. I take the YAC seriously. I realize that it is no joke and I have a chance to really make a difference and reach out to teens.